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ETHNOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF THE PEOPLES OF RUSSIA.*

By T. De PAULY.

Dedicated to the Emperor Alexander on the occasion of the Millenary Jubilee of the Russian Empire.

THIS is really a most magnificent work, and reflects the highest credit on Russian science and art, being illustrated by sixty-two coloured plates representing the types and costumes of all the peoples of the Russian Empire. M. Pauly, himself known as a patient and industrious investigator, has had the advantage of the assistance of Eckert, Ritter, Schott, Kœpper, Kounck, Brosset, etc. Ch. de Baer has furnished the introduction. The work is divided into five principal sections, namely, Indo-Europeans; Peoples of the Caucasus; Ouralo-Altaic Peoples; Peoples of Eastern Siberia; Peoples of Russian America. The sections are subdivided into chapters, each of which treats of a distinct nationality, with a description of its habits, history, organization, etc.

There is an appendix containing, (1) a plate representing the chief cranial types; (2) a statistical table founded on the last official documents; and (3) an ethnographic chromo-lithograph map.

The work has only one drawback, it is inaccessible from its price, which is not less than £35 sterling. Considering, however, that the designs have been furnished and executed by the most renowned artists, that the plates have been destroyed, and that only comparatively few copies have been printed; we do not think that the author will derive much advantage in a pecuniary point of view. It is rare, indeed, to see such a work attempted and successfully executed by the private resources of an individual.

We give an extract from Baer's introduction.

"Among the scientific works which distinguish the present epoch, none are more useful, and deserve to be received with more favour, than a new and complete description of the peoples of the Russian Empire. In our anthropological treatises we no longer restrict ourselves to carefully grouping the numerous varieties of man, but we attach the greatest importance to the diversity of the intellectual faculties of nations.

"A work which gives precise information on these interesting subjects, would both facilitate scientific research, and would be invaluable

* *Description Ethnographique des Peuples de la Russie*, par T. de Pauly. 1862. St. Petersburgh.

to the government with regard to the administration of the respective countries."

The preceding remarks show that M. de Pauly has filled up a gap in the domain of science.

The area of the Russian Empire, in 1859, is estimated by Pauly at 400,000 geographical square miles, with a population of seventy-four millions. Of this number, fifty-five millions, that is more than three-fourths of the whole population, belong to the Slavonian race—the most numerous of the three principal European races, amounting to above 80,000,000 of souls. We find, thus, that of the various elements composing the population of the Russian Empire, the Slavonian greatly predominates, and *there only* maintains its sovereignty, not being, as elsewhere, subject to other nationalities. We shall, probably, have occasion to refer to this great work in a future number.

ON THE COMMIXTURE OF THE RACES OF MAN IN WESTERN AND CENTRAL ASIA.*

By JOHN CRAWFURD, Esq., F.R.S.,

PRESIDENT OF THE ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY; HONORARY FELLOW OF THE
ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

AMONG the races that have played the most conspicuous part in history are the Jews, including under this name all the people of Palestine and Phœnicia. I imagine they are now everywhere more or less a mixed people. It is sufficient distinction for a small people, with a narrow territory, that they were the first to engage in foreign maritime commerce—that they founded Carthage, the rival of Rome; and that from among them sprang the two forms of religion which now prevail with half the inhabitants of the globe and all the more civilized.

The entire region occupied by the Hebrew race is not above a fourth part larger than the Principality of Wales. It is a country of mountains, rocks, deserts, but with some well-watered, and therefore fertile, plains and valleys. Near ten degrees beyond the tropic, Palestine in climate resembles the southern countries of Europe, and its natural products correspond, for it was a land of wheat and barley, of the vine and the olive. The race was, in energy and enterprise, far more European than Asiatic. Hemmed in by deserts and the

* Extracted from a paper read before the Ethnological Society, March 17th, 1863.